

CIA/OCI/BRIEF 152-75
30 SEPTEMBER 1975

Approved For Release 2001/08/21 : CIA-RDP86T00608R000300010054-0

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EAST ASIA BRIEF 152-75.4

3. ROMANIANS FETED IN PEKING--AGAIN: THE VISIT OF MAJOR GENERAL GOMOIU, ROMANIAN DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER AND HEAD OF THE MILITARY'S HIGHER POLITICAL COUNCIL, TO PEKING IS SURE TO IRRITATE MOSCOW.4

AT A RECEPTION IN GOMOIU'S HONOR ON SUNDAY, THE CHINESE TOASTED THE "PROFOUND AND REVOLUTIONARY FRIENDSHIP" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THEIR COMMON "STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND HEGEMONISM"--THE LAST A CODEWORD FOR SOVIET EFFORTS TO DOMINATE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. GOMOIU RESPONDED BY UNDERSCORING THE "FUNDAMENTAL INTERESTS OF THE TWO PEOPLES." HE LAUDED THE ARMY'S ROLE IN DEFENDING THE CHINESE REVOLUTION AND IN SAFEGUARDING THE NATION'S INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY. THE ROMANIAN CHARACTERIZED HIS TALKS AS A NEW CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.4

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FOUR YEARS AGO, SIMILAR TOASTS DURING CEAUSESCU'S VISIT TO PEKING TOUCHED OFF SEVERAL MONTHS OF SOVIET PRESSURE ON THE BALKANS, INCLUDING A WELL-ORCHESTRATED CAMPAIGN AGAINST AN ALLEGED "PRO-PEKING, ANTI-SOVIET, TIRANA, BUCHAREST AND BELGRADE AXIS."

GOMOIU IS THE LATEST OF A NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL ROMANIANS WHO HAVE TRAVELED TO PEKING THIS MONTH. ILIE VERDET, THE PARTY SECRETARY FOR CADRE AFFAIRS WAS THERE FROM SEPTEMBER 5 TO 9. JOSEF BANC, THE PARTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IS CURRENTLY IN CHINA, ALONG WITH MAJOR GENERAL DUMITRU, THE HEAD OF ROMANIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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WESTERN HEMISPHERE BRIEF 152-75.4

1. CUBA: FIDEL CASTRO STRONGLY ENDORSED THE CAUSE OF INDEPENDENCE FOR PUERTO RICO ON SUNDAY. HE THUS LENT HIS PERSONAL PRESTIGE TO AN ISSUE THAT HAS BECOME A MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK IN THE PATH OF NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH THE US. HIS REMARKS APPARENTLY WERE INTENDED AS A RESPONSE TO WHAT HE LABELED "STRONG STATEMENTS" BY US OFFICIALS.

IN A LONG SPEECH OTHERWISE DEVOTED TO INTERNAL CUBAN AFFAIRS, CASTRO SPOKE BRIEFLY ABOUT PUERTO RICO AND THE US. HE IMPLIED THAT CUBAN SOLIDARITY WITH THE CAUSE OF PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE IS A MATTER OF PRINCIPLE AND THAT IT WILL NOT BE RENOUNCED IN ORDER TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE US. HE ADDED, "IF THAT IS NOT UNDERSTOOD, WE WILL KNOW HOW TO BE AS PATIENT AS NECESSARY."

CONTRARY TO SOME PRESS ACCOUNTS OF THE SPEECH, CASTRO DID NOT DEPART FROM THE NOW-STANDARD CUBAN POSITION REGARDING PUERTO RICO. NOTHING HE SAID INDICATED A RETREAT FROM HIS STATED WILLINGNESS TO BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE US TO SETTLE BILATERAL DIFFERENCES.

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PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE, WHILE A GENUINE CUBAN GOAL, IS
ALSO BEING USED BY HAVANA TO BOLSTER ITS REVOLUTIONARY CREDENTIALS
IN THE THIRD WORLD. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2IMPDET-H

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AZEVEDO'S MOVE ON THE MEDIA IS THE TOUGHEST ACTION HIS
 NEW GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN TO IMPLEMENT THE PROMISE TO RESTORE
 "DEMOCRATIC PLURALISM" TO THE MEDIA AND DISCIPLINE TO THE MILITARY.
 AZEVEDO ISSUED THE ORDER AS ACTING PRESIDENT WHILE COSTA GOMES,
 WELL KNOWN FOR TEMPORIZING AND COMPROMISING, IS OUT OF THE COUNTRY,
 VISITING POLAND AND THE USSR. FOREIGN MINISTER ANTUNES HAS
 POSTPONED HIS PLANS TO JOIN COSTA GOMES BECAUSE OF THE CURRENT
 SITUATION.4

IF AZEVEDO IS FORCED TO BACK DOWN ON THE MEDIA ISSUE, IT
 WOULD BE A SERIOUS BLOW TO THE CREDIBILITY AND LONG-TERM PROSPECTS
 OF HIS GOVERNMENT.4

IN A SPEECH LAST NIGHT, AZEVEDO APPEALED FOR NATIONAL UNITY
 AND SUPPORT OF HIS ACTION. HE SAID THE OCCUPATION OF THE RADIO
 AND TELEVISION STATIONS IS INTENDED TO END THE MEDIA'S ENCOURAGEMENT
 OF CIVIL DISRUPTIONS AND THE EXPLOITATION OF
 INDISCIPLINE IN THE ARMED FORCES. DEMONSTRATIONS HAD BEEN
 INCREASING IN RECENT DAYS, WITH RADICAL SOLDIERS, VETERANS, AND
 LEFT-WING CIVILIANS PROTESTING AZEVEDO'S NEW GOVERNMENT AND SPAIN'S

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DATE-TIME GROUP

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MESSAGE REFERENCE NUMBER

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EXECUTION OF TERRORISTS.4

AZEVEDO'S DECISION WAS TRIGGERED BY AN ATTEMPT BY DISABLED VETERANS OVER THE WEEKEND TO DETAIN MEMBERS OF THE CABINET. HE ORDERED COMMANDOS TO BREAK UP THE CROWD AND WAS HEAVILY CRITICIZED BY THE MEDIA. AZEVEDO ALSO DISAPPROVED OF THE MEDIA'S CALL FOR ACTIVISTS TO SACK THE SPANISH EMBASSY IN LISBON ON SATURDAY.4

THE PRIME MINISTER ASSURED THE NATION THAT THE OCCUPATION MEASURE IS TEMPORARY AND IS DESIGNED TO AVOID DECLARING A STATE OF EMERGENCY THAT WOULD RESTRICT CIVIL LIBERTIES. {CONFIDENTIAL}4

2. ROMANIANS FETED IN PEKING--AGAIN: THE VISIT OF MAJOR GENERAL GOMOIU, ROMANIAN DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER AND HEAD OF THE MILITARY'S HIGHER POLITICAL COUNCIL, TO PEKING IS SURE TO IR-RITATE MOSCOW.4

AT A RECEPTION IN GOMOIU'S HONOR ON SUNDAY, THE CHINESE TOASTED THE "PROFOUND AND REVOLUTIONARY FRIENDSHIP" BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES IN THEIR COMMON "STRUGGLE AGAINST IMPERIALISM, COLONIALISM, AND HEGEMONISM"--THE LAST A CODEWORD FOR SOVIET EFFORTS

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PAGE OF PAGES

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TO DOMINATE THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT.
 GOMOIU RESPONDED BY UNDERSCORING THE "FUNDAMENTAL
 INTERESTS OF THE TWO PEOPLES." HE LAUDED THE ARMY'S
 ROLE IN DEFENDING THE CHINESE REVOLUTION AND IN
 SAFEGUARDING THE NATION'S INDEPENDENCE AND SOVER-
 EIGNTY. THE ROMANIAN CHARACTERIZED HIS TALKS AS A
 NEW CONTRIBUTION TO COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ARMED
 FORCES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES.4

FOUR YEARS AGO, SIMILAR TOASTS DURING CEAUSESCU'S
 VISIT TO PEKING TOUCHED OFF SEVERAL MONTHS OF SOVIET
 PRESSURE ON THE BALKANS, INCLUDING A WELL-ORCHESTRATED
 CAMPAIGN AGAINST AN ALLEGED "PRO-PEKING, ANTI-SOVIET,
 TIRANA, BUCHAREST AND BELGRADE AXIS."4

GOMOIU IS THE LATEST OF A NUMBER OF HIGH-LEVEL
 ROMANIANS WHO HAVE TRAVELED TO PEKING THIS MONTH.
 ILIE VERDET, THE PARTY SECRETARY FOR CADRE AFFAIRS
 WAS THERE FROM SEPTEMBER 5 TO 9. JOSEF BANC, THE
 PARTY SECRETARY FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IS CURRENTLY

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PAGE OF PAGES

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MESSAGE HANDLING INDICATOR

DATE-TIME GROUP

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IN CHINA, ALONG WITH MAJOR GENERAL DUMITRU, THE
HEAD OF ROMANIAN MILITARY INTELLIGENCE. {CONFIDEN-
TIAL} E-2 IMPDET.H

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MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 152-75.4

LEBANON: THE LEBANESE NATIONAL CONCILIATION COMMITTEE MET FOR
 THE SECOND TIME YESTERDAY. IT APPARENTLY MADE SOME PROGRESS ON
 IMMEDIATE ISSUES AFFECTING THE CEASE-FIRE, BUT THERE WAS NO
 SIGN OF COMPROMISE ON BASIC ISSUES. PRIME MINISTER KARAMI
 ANNOUNCED THAT THE COMMITTEE AGREED ON STEPS TO REMOVE STREET
 BARRICADES, TO SILENCE SNIPERS, TO CLOSE CLANDESTINE RADIO
 STATIONS, AND TO PREVENT FURTHER KIDNAPINGS.4

THE COMMITTEE DID SOLICIT THE VIEWS OF THE COMPETING GROUPS
 ON HOW TO DEAL WITH THE CAUSES OF THE VIOLENCE THAT HAS RACKED
 THE COUNTRY. NEITHER THE CHRISTIAN PHALANGISTS NOR THEIR
 LEFTIST MUSLIM OPPONENTS APPARENTLY SHOWED ANY GIVE IN THEIR
 POSITIONS. THE DISCUSSIONS ARE LIKELY TO BE COMPLICATED BY
 PHALANGIST LEADER PIERRE JUMAYYIL'S INSISTENCE ON DISCUSSING
 THE SENSITIVE QUESTION OF THE PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON, A MATTER
 THAT MOST OTHER PARTICIPANTS WOULD PREFER TO AVOID.4

THE MAKE-UP OF THE COMMITTEE ITSELF ENSURES THAT THE TALKS
 WILL BE DIFFICULT. LEADERS OF THE CONSERVATIVE WING OF THE SHIA

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MUSLIMS ARE SAID TO BE ANGRY OVER NOT BEING ADEQUATELY
 REPRESENTED. PARLIAMENT SPEAKER KAMAL AL-ASAD, A MEMBER OF THIS
 GROUP, HAS BOYCOTTED THE MEETING.4

KARAMI REPORTEDLY IS TRYING TO EXPAND THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE
 COMMITTEE TO MEET THE OBJECTIONS OF THE SHIAS, AS WELL AS OF THE
 CHRISTIANS EAST OF BEIRUT WHO HAVE SIMILAR COMPLAINTS. THE
 LEFTIST FOLLOWERS OF KAMAL JUMBLATT OPPOSE ANY SUCH CHANGE IN
 THE COMMITTEE.4

THE SECURITY SITUATION IN BEIRUT IMPROVED AGAIN YESTERDAY
 AS SHOPS AND STORES BEGAN TO REOPEN. MOST BANKS WERE CLOSED, BUT
 WERE EXPECTED TO REOPEN TODAY.4

THE ARMY HAS TAKEN OVER THE JOB OF KEEPING ORDER IN THE
 COMMERCIAL AREAS OF BEIRUT, LEAVING OTHER AREAS TO THE INTERNAL
 SECURITY FORCES AND TO THE PALESTINE LIBERATION ORGANIZATION. THE
 PLO HAS ASSUMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR SECURITY IN THE WESTERN PART OF
 BEIRUT. {CONFIDENTIAL} E-2 IMPDET.4

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